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## REPORT

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## REFERENCES

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1. The antagonistic feelings of the Slovenes towards the Yugoslav State, considered as a Union of South Slavs, are increasing. This is coupled with ethnic antagonism towards the other peoples of Yugoslavia, with the partial exception of the Croats. This attitude, which is especially strong among the peasants, the non-Party intellectuals, and priests, has been on the increase and is more openly expressed at the present time than it was immediately after World War II.
2. Some examples of this attitude are listed below:
  - a. The Slovenes openly discuss and strongly resent the fact that the majority of federal jobs in Slovenia are held by non-Slovenes, especially Serbs. As an example, most important positions in the National Bank of Slovenia are held by Serb officials; the customs service is run by the Serbs; the border guards are Albanians, Macedonians and Serbs; none (sic) of the officers of the armed forces stationed in Slovenia is a Slovene; and the proportion of Slovene officers in the Yugoslav Armed Forces, especially in relation to the Serbs, is much lower than it should be. It is the contention of the Slovenes that the Serbs are generally favored throughout the armed forces.
  - b. The Slovenes believe that the Federal Government favors the Republics of Serbia, Macedonia, and Bosnia and Hercegovina, and that Slovenia receives much less than its rightful share of economic rights. Until 1951 the Federal Government forced the best paper, cellulose, and lumber produced in Slovenia to be shipped to Serbia, Macedonia, and Montenegro; consequently, these items were unavailable on the Slovene market. Comments that Slovenia is a "milking cow" of Serbia are often heard in Ljubljana. People also engage in sarcastic discussions about the allegations that Slovenian Communists are more zealous in carrying out the orders from Belgrade than are the Communists of Croatia or of the other republics. The current saying in Ljubljana is: "In Belgrade they write the laws, in Zagreb they read them, and in Ljubljana they carry them out."

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- c. Slovenes still strongly resent the fact that, on orders from Belgrade for "assistance to brotherly republics," much factory machinery and equipment were dismantled in Slovenia and shipped to Macedonia and Southern Serbia. Trainloads of machinery were shipped from Slovenia to Macedonia and Serbia during 1946, 1947, and 1948. The Slovene workers bitterly resented these shipments of textile machines, electric equipment, and printing presses. To this day Slovenia has not fully recovered, so that, for example, of the 26 printing houses which existed in Slovenia in 1945, only 7 or 8 remain there now. Violent comments concerning such wholesale plundering of the Slovene industrial potential are still heard in Ljubljana, but the Serbs and not the Communists are blamed. The Slovenes accuse the Serbs of trying to decrease the industrial potential of Slovenia, the only republic in Yugoslavia with an industrial tradition

and of increasing their own industry by "plundering" and by diverting the largest part of the new investments to their own national territory.

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- d. The building of a textile mill in Stip, Macedonia, was widely discussed among textile specialists in Slovenia in 1954 because the mill was being constructed in an area lacking an industrial tradition, skilled labor, and the facilities required for the development of industry. The people in this area are either illiterate or, at best, semi-literate. Slovene textile specialists point out that the textile mill at Stura near Ljubljana specializes in manufacturing the same type of materials, has a tradition in the textile field going back to the times of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, and is known for its exports in many European countries. They say that it is this plant that should be enlarged and modernized
- e. instead of constructing a new plant in Macedonia, because skilled labor, power, transportation, tradition, and know-how already exist in Stura. The Slovenes angrily claim that this is still another case of discrimination against Slovenia and ridicule the attempts to construct the textile mill in Macedonia.
- e. Though Slovene engineers, doctors, and skilled workers are no longer ordered to take jobs in other Yugoslav republics, the Yugoslav Government is trying to induce them to accept such employment by offering them triple and even quadruple their present salaries, free living quarters, and other privileges. Nevertheless the Slovenes are not accepting these offers because they refuse to live in what they term "backward" and "primitive" areas. During 1954, many textile engineers from the Ljubljana and Maribor areas and many steel engineers from Ljubljana and Jesenice, including instructors from the Jesenice Steel Works' Middle Technical School and from the Ljubljana Middle Technical School, were asked to take jobs in Bosnia and Hercegovina, Macedonia, Montenegro, and South Serbia, but most of them refused.

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- f. While the Serbs and Macedonians are disliked and often despised in Slovenia, the Slovene non-Party intellectuals consider the Croats a progressive nationality and believe in the possibility of a joint Slovene-Croat struggle against the Communist regime and against the existence of Yugoslavia as a South Slav State. Slovene priests are also sympathetic towards the Croats mainly because of their common

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religion and because they see in Cardinal Alojzije Stepinac a symbol of the struggle against Communism. Slovene farmers usually refer to all other nationals of Yugoslavia as "Serbs" do not care for any of them, and fondly recall the "good old Austrian times."

- g. The peasants, artisans, and many others who live in the Styrian region of Slovenia are pro-Austrian in their orientation and freely and proudly talk about their military service with the German Army during World War II. Since this area was incorporated into the German Reich during the period April 1941 - May 1945, they served in the German Army as German citizens. The Partisans had little success in this area during the war because the people of the area preferred serving in the German Army to joining the Partisans. In order to organize a Styrian Partisan unit, the Communists were forced to transfer Partisan fighters from other areas of Slovenia into this area. Today German is commonly spoken in the streets and in the public places in Maribor, the principal city of the area, in spite of the fact that the Communist regime of Yugoslavia expelled many Germans from the area in 1945 and 1946.

Comment: Probably a reference to Tehniska Srednja Sola, Askerceva 9, Ljubljana, and a similar school at Jesenice.

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